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Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 06607 011524Z

60
ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 JUSE-00 FEA-01 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 L-03

LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 CIEP-02 SS-15

STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01

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FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, AU
SUBJECT: ANTIDUMPING PROCEEDINGS: SKI BINDINGS

REF: STATE 173983

1. SUMMARY
AUSTRIAN PAPERS OF JULY 25 AND 26 CARRIED REPORTS BUT NO EDITORIAL COMMENT ON US ANTIDUMPING PROCEEDINGS CONCERNING SKI BINDINGS AGAINST THREE AUSTRIAN FIRMS. MOST PAPERS REPORT STATEMENT OF AUSTRIAN TRADE DELEGATE IN NEW YORK TO EFFECT THAT AUSTRIAN COMPANIES HAVE GOOD CHANCE TO DEFEND THEMSELVES SUCCESSFULLY AGAINST US PROCEEDINGS. END SUMMARY

2. AUSTRIAN PAPERS OF JULY 25 AND 26 REPORT THAT WEST EUROPEAN MANUFACTURERS OF SKIS AND SKI BINDINGS ARE ACCUSED OF HAVING VIOLATED US ANTIDUMPING LEGISLATION BY SELLING SKI BINDINGS IN US AT PRICES LOWER THAN THOSE CHARGED IN COUNTRIES OF PRODUCTION. BESIDES WEST GERMAN
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FIRM NAMED MARKER AND UNNAMED SWISS COMPANY, FOLLOWING

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AUSTRIAN FIRMS REPORTEDLY INVOLVED: WIENER METALL-
WARENFABRIK SMOLKA & CO. OF SCHWECHAT, GERAETEBAU HUBER
GES.M.B.H. OF GOETZIS, AND FRANZ KNEISSL OF KUFSTEIN,
SMOLKA, A SUBSIDIARY OF US AMF, AND GERAETEBAU HUBER
MANUFACTURE SKI BINDINGS; KNEISSL PRODUCES SKIS
EQUIPPED WITH BINDINGS MADE BY SMOLKA.

3. PAPERS REPORT SMOLKA (MANUFACTURER OF BINDINGS
WITH TRADE NAME QUOTE TYROLIA UNQUOTE) AS STATING THAT
US COMPLAINANT FIRM, SAFETY SYSTEMS OF CHICAGO, HAS
RECENTLY EXPERIENCED CONSIDERABLE DROP IN SALES OF
PLATE BINDINGS. SMOLKA, WHICH NOT LONG AGO ALSO INTRO-
DUCED PLATE BINDINGS, REPORTEDLY SELLS ONLY ABOUT 8,000
BINDINGS IN US WHEREAS SAFETY SYSTEMS SOLD ABOUT 100,000
OF ITS BINDINGS IN QUOTE BETTER YEARS UNQUOTE. SMOLKA
IS FURTHER REPORTED AS STATING THAT ITS AUSTRIAN PRICES
ARE NO HIGHER THAN THOSE CHARGED IN US, AND THAT FIRM
THEREFORE SERENELY FACES US LEGAL ACTION.

4. MOST PAPERS REPORT STATEMENT OF AUSTRIAN TRADE DELEGATE
IN NEW YORK TO EFFECT THAT AUSTRIAN COMPANIES HAVE
GOOD CHANCE TO DEFEND THEMSELVES SUCCESSFULLY AGAINST
US PROCEEDINGS. BUCHANAN

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